

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of
Burbank et al.

Examiner: Matthew D. Dryden

Group Art Unit: 3736

For: **TISSUE ACCESSING AND ANCHORING
DEVICE AND METHOD**

Serial No.: 10/729,086

Filed: December 5, 2003

Docket No.: R0367-02501

**INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage addressed to Mail Stop
Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 6/20/06, in San Francisco, CA.

By: Edward J. Lynch

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Patent Office the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form and request that they be considered by the Examiner. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in an International Search Report from a foreign patent office on a related foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. A copy of the International Search Report and foreign patent documents listed in the attached are enclosed herewith.

Applicants believe that there is no fee due. Should the Commissioner find otherwise, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fees due and to credit any overpayment set forth under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 04-1679, referencing Atty. Docket No. R0367-02501.

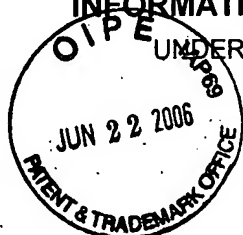
Respectfully submitted,

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<p style="text-align: center;">IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">UNDER 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PTO-1449 FORM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHEET 1 OF 1</p>	<p>ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">R0367-02501</p>	<p>SERIAL NO.:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10/729,086</p>
	<p>APPLICANTS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Burbank et al.</p>	<p>EXAMINER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Matthew D. Dryden</p>
	<p>FILING DATE:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December 5, 2003</p>	<p>GROUP ART UNIT:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3736</p>



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

† EX'R INITIAL	*REF. #	PATENT NUMBER	DATE (MO/YR)	NAME	U.S. CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (If appropriate)
	A182	3,945,375	3/76	Banko et al.		
	A183	5,980,469	11/99	Burbank et al.		
	A184	5,595,185	1/97	Erich et al.		
	A185	6,540,695	1/03	Burbank et al.		
	A186	2003/0004407	1/03	Carroll et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

† EX'R INITIAL	*REF. #	PATENT NUMBER	DATE (MO/YR)	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)	
	B35	EP 0 970 658	1/01	EPO		
	B36	WO 02/22023	3/02	WIPO		
	B37	WO 2005/063126	7/05	WIPO		

OTHER DOCUMENTS

† EX'R INITIAL	*REF. #	Document Description (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
	C10	International Search Report for PCT/US2005/027071 mailed March 21, 2006.

EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
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† EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609.
Line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form in next communication to applicant.

* If an asterisk is placed beside the reference number, a copy is not provided because the reference was previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in a prior application that is identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d).